

Reply to Office Action dated December 11, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4, 13-16 and 18-24 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 21-24 are added. Various amendments are made for clarity and are unrelated to issues of patentability. This Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. This Amendment should be considered a submission in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

Applicant has currently scheduled a personal interview on May 16, 2007 with Examiner Zurita.

The Office Action rejects claims 2, 4, 13-16, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by U.S. Patent 6,437,836 to Huang et al. (hereafter Huang). The Office Action also rejects claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Huang. The rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the pending claims.

Huang discloses an extended functionality remote control (EFRC) that provides a hardware/software implementation of an integrated interface for remote control emulation. The EFRC also merges information services such as electronic program guides with the functioning of remote controls. The EFRC can remain current by shifting the remote control functions from a universal remote control from firmware, where it is pre-encoded and not modifiable at any time, to software by downloading new codes from the Internet into an application which can utilize these codes for the targeted consumer electronics device. The user can select the components of their specific consumer electronic device on the worldwide web and download a

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data file with all remote control code information preprogrammed into this data file allowing dynamic construction of the user's remote control buttons on a graphical touch screen from the information contained within the downloaded data file.

Huang does not teach or suggest a remote controller that includes a display unit including an image process circuit and a display window, the display unit displaying various remote controller function keys and a list of the plurality of electronic apparatuses. The Office Action asserts that Huang discloses these limitations in col. 1, lines 7-12 and col. 3, lines 13-24. However, these portions merely disclose a handheld device for displaying information and transmitting codes to a remote receiver device to cause the device to tune to a selected program, and details regarding electronic program guides that offer television program listings in an electronic format and on-screen listings that include listings of scheduled programming. This is not a display unit displaying various remote controller function keys and a list of the plurality of electronic apparatuses, as recited in independent claim 2. Huang merely discloses displaying electronic program guides comprising a listing of scheduled television programming. This is not displaying a list of a plurality of electronic apparatuses that the remote controller has received remote controller information for over the Internet. Huang merely relates to displaying a graphical representation that may take the form of (1) remote control emulation of a particular device, or (2) the electronic program guide (see, col. 7, lines 38-42). Huang does not teach or suggest displaying on a remote controller a list of a plurality of electronic apparatuses.

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According to embodiments of the present invention, a user of the remote controller may select from this list of electronic apparatuses displayed on the remote controller.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Huang does not teach or suggest all the feature of independent claim 2. Thus, independent claim 2 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 21 recites a communication device to communicate with a server or a computer over the Internet, the communication device to receive remote controller information for a plurality of electronic apparatuses over the Internet from the server or the computer, said remote controller information including remote controller code information and function information for the plurality of electronic apparatuses. Independent claim 21 also recites a storage device to store the remote controller information, a display unit including a display window to display various remote controller function keys and a list of the plurality of electronic apparatuses, and a user interface unit configured to receive user operation commands for remote controller functions, wherein the remote controller transmits an infrared signal corresponding to a key input by a user, and the electronic apparatuses are one of from different manufacturers, of different kinds or different models.

For at least similar reasons as set forth above, Huang does not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 21. More specifically, Huang does not suggest a display unit including a display window to display various remote controller function keys and a list of the plurality of electronic apparatuses. Even further, Huang does not suggest that the electronic

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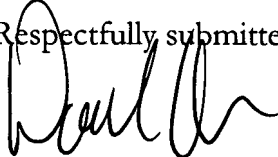
apparatuses are from different manufacturers, are different kinds or are different models. Thus, independent claim 21 defines patentable subject matter.

Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 2, 4, 13-16 and 18-24 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,


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